I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Phan 2015 Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EL 995016643 US of an envelope additional commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandra, VM 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 17, 2006 Signature:

Docket No.: 30572/41855 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Gagik Barkhordarian et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: Metalliferous, Hydrogen-Storing Material and

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Process for its Production

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.